NEW C/FO BULLETIN
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An official publication of the
Cartoon/Fantasy Organization
P.O. Box 19261
San Antonio, TX 78218-0261

Table of Contents

Contents/Publication Info..... p 1
Editorial..... p 1
Chairman's Report..... p 3
Proposed Bylaws Amendment..... p 4
How to Vote..... p 5
C/FO Archives Guide..... p 6
Mokuto no Ken Guide I..... p 8
Amendment Ballot.....Insert

Publication Info

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Editorial

I'm sure that this is not the publication that many of you were expecting. Original plans were to publish a combined 50 page NEW C/FO BULLETIN 3-4. However, it became necessary to send out a publication to handle the amendment election called by the board so I elected to make this notice into a mini-bulletin something like the ones members will be getting in 1988.

Yes, the large format quarterly magazine is DEAD. There were simply too few submissions to keep it going --- not to mention the fact that its editor is also supposed to do just about everything else necessary to run the club. For those of you who are going to miss the large format bulletin, I'm sorry. NEW C/FO BULLETIN #4 (currently scheduled for late December or January) will probably be large format, but it will be the last. There is only so much that one person can do.

APATHY AND AMENDMENTS

The board of directors has proposed an amendment to the bylaws that will, to put it simply, give almost total control of the club to the board. Provisions are made for removing board members and undoing its actions, but the power will be strongly concentrated in the board. A year ago I would have opposed such a thing with all my might. **This year, I not only proposed the amendment, I plan to resign all my club offices and duties if it is not approved by the membership!** Why the change of heart, you (should) ask?

Simple. I have never been in a fan club with as much apathy as the C/FO. Most C/FO members seem to be in the club JUST for the 'gimmes' (anime tape trading and the publications), that's normal for any fan club. What is abnormal is that fact that there are practically no DOERS. I have edited other clubzines before and was shocked by the lack of submissions for this publication. Everyone wants it, but practically NO ONE writes for it! Most chapters of this organization are not even interested enough in what the general club is doing to comment on our actions in C/FO-COMMUNICATIONS!!

The proposed bylaws amendment will make it possible for those few of us interested in the general club and actually willing to do it's work to streamline and reorganize the club to the point that we can handle the work load. In my personal opinion, anyone who votes against this amendment should be required to devote 15 hours a month to actually doing the work now required to run this club --- I can't stand people who want the work done, but don't want to do it themselves! Fortunately for the membership of the C/FO, my opinion is just that, an opinion; you can vote any way you please without fear of having to do any work....

Unfortunately, if the bylaws amendment is approved, it will not really improve the club, all that will happen is the we will be able to hold our own. To really improve the club, a good percentage of the membership would have to start actually writing articles, fan fiction, letters to other members, and, in general, just DO THINGS rather than sit on their duffs waiting for them to be done by others. This is a fan club, it doesn't have any full-time professionals to do the work for you --- it just has some very tired, over-worked, and fed-up volunteers doing the best they can in what spare time they have. No one gets paid any money, in fact, running this club costs us money for phone calls and the like that we can't charge the club for because, if we did charge, there would not be enough money left to print all the publications!

What bothers me more than anything else are those few people who complain that our publications are not "professional looking" enough!!! Folks, this is a fan club, not a professional organization; we volunteers do the best we can with what we have. Yes, I will admit that this magazine would look better if I had a MAC, a personal publishing program, and a laser printer. Unfortunately, I do not and I do not think very much of the handful of members (mainly in the San Francisco area) who seem to think that I should spent my money to get such stuff just so they can

say that the NEW C/FO BULLETIN looks better than other fan publications (in their area)! I wouldn't be so upset if one of these people actually volunteered to do the publication in the manner they desire at no more than the current (high) production costs, but they haven't done so. Besides, the idea that we should do this just so they can play one-upsmanship with other fan groups in their area is inane! The C/FO is a group of fans of animation, manga, and the like; who cares if we are the "biggest" or the "best", so long as we are enjoying anime and slowly increasing the level of interest in the subject???

To put it bluntly: Ask not what the general C/FO can do for you, but find something you can do for general C/FO and DO IT - 'cause there's no such thing as a free lunch!

SUPPORT OTHERS TOO!

The C/FO is not the only anime fan group in existance. There are others that I feel deserve your support as well, and I am going to mention one in each issue of this bulletin until I run out of deserving organizations.

I'll start off with the second oldest (yes, the C/FO is the oldest) anime fan group of national scope that is still active today (at least to my knowledge), the EARTH DEFENSE COMMAND. This group started out years ago as a STARBLAZERS Fan Club. Over the years it has expanded its interests to include Japanese anime in general. Full Membership currently cost $8.00 a year and entitles you to 2 issues of the EDC's large clubzine, MOVA. The reputation of the EDC has not been very good in recent years, but the club has completely re-organized this year and deserves another chance, so no matter what bad things you may have heard about this group in the past, I believe that they deserve your support if you are looking for another anime fan club to join. The EDC may be contacted at the following address (enclose a SASE):

Earth Defense Command
P.O. Box 515942
Dallas, TX 75251-5942

There is also new "professional" magazine out, ANIMAG has published its first issue. It is magazine-sized with 32 black and white pages and a slick, color cover. It is available through Bud Plant and Books Nippan, or it can be ordered direct from the publisher for $2.50 (postpaid) by writing to ANIMAG, c/o Matt Anaceleto, 396 E. O'Keefe Street #1, East Palo Alto, CA 94303. ANIMAG is not without its problems (for example, the first issue has an article on Gundam with material taken word-for-word from articles written by Jane McGuire yet fails to give her any credit --- there is little excuse for this in any professional publication!), but it is the best of the publications currently available. Give it a try!

Finally, I'd like to plug the C/FO-San Antonio Newsletter. This is a monthly publication that is now in its third year of publication. My prior commitment to edit this publication is what makes it impossible for me to publish a huge quarterly bulletin for the general C/FO with the low level of assistance that I've gotten. The C/FO-SAN ANTONIO NEWSLETTER is currently expanding from nine to twelve sheets a month (we count sheets of paper not pages, because the page count varies depending on whether or not part of the issue is a digest-sized insert booklet). It publishes synopses of what is showing at San Antonio meetings, fan fiction, anime and fandom news, translations, filk songs, insert booklets on various shows (we have recently had them on DRAGONAR, MOKUTO NO KEN, and SPT LAYZNER and future ones already on line include GATCHAMAN, HEAVY METAL L'GAIM, SAINT SEIYA, GUNDAM, and knowing Robert, more MOKUTO NO KEN), and the like. The MOKUTO NO KEN article in this issue is reprinted from the C/FO-San Antonio Newsletter. Subscriptions to this non-profit fan publication are expensive (and we still lose money on each issue), but are open to everybody. If you'd like to get a monthly anime publication, send a check or money order made out to DRAGONFIRE PRODUCTIONS stapled to a sheet of paper on which you neatly print your name and address to C/FO-SA Newsletter, c/o Randall Stukey, 4122 Tallulah, San Antonio, TX 78218-3452. Subscription rates are as follows (within the US, write for info otherwise):

3 issues....	$7.50
6 issues....	$12.00
12 issues...	$22.00

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for your subscription to start.

HAS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED?

Remember to check the mailing label on this publication to see if your C/FO membership has expired! If it has, please renew!

C/FO MAGAZINE REVIVAL FAILS

Mark Keller's attempt to find someone to take over publication of the C/FO MAGAZINE has failed and the publication will not be appearing.

FINAL WORDS

The C/FO officers and the Bulletin staff want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Happy Thanksgiving!
Happy Hanukkah!
Merry Christmas!

Randall S. Stukey, Editor
4122 Tallulah
San Antonio, TX 78218-3452

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Several major decisions have been made by the board of directors since the last NEW C/FO BULLETIN, so I will get right to them.

NEW C/FO MAIN ADDRESS

Due to delays in mail forwarding from the La Brea address, the board voted to move the main address to San Antonio in late July. The NEW main address for the C/FO is:

Cartoon/Fantasy Organization
P.O. Box 18261
San Antonio, TX 78218-0261

It has now become very important that all members use this new main address because Studio A, the location of the LA Chapter and the main address of the C/FO for years will be closing at the end of November 1987. THE C/FO WILL NO LONGER BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAIL SENT TO THE LA BREA ADDRESS! USE THE NEW ADDRESS FOR ALL COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE GENERAL C/FO.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY RESIGNS

Due to a lack of time, Scott Wiekert resigned his position of C/FO Membership Secretary in August 1987. Mr. Wiekert never did forward his membership records to the club. Therefore anyone who sent a membership or a renewal directly to Scott at anytime this year is probably NOT recorded on the C/FO's membership roster. All members were informed in both of this year's NEW C/FO BULLETINs to communicate with the club through the main address. If you elected not to do so, the burden of *proving* that you are a member must fall squarely on your shoulders!

NEW C/FO ARCHIVIST NAMED

Fred Patten resigned as C/FO Archivist when he found that he lacked the time to properly perform the duties of the office. Upon the recommendation of Director Barbara Edmunds, Shon Howell was appointed C/FO Archivist in late July. Unfortunately, Fred has been too busy to mail much of the C/FO Archives to Shon, but what has been received is listed later in this publication along with the procedure that a C/FO member may use to obtain copies from the archives.

NEW BOARD MEMBER NAMED

Bill Spurlock, citing several things that he was unhappy with in the operation of the general C/FO, resigned as a Director of the C/FO at the end of September 1987. Patricia Munson-Siter was nominated by C/FO President Mark Keller to fill the vacancy Mr. Spurlock's resignation created. She was confirmed unanimously by the board on October 18, 1987 and was named Vice-Chairman of the C/FO Board of Directors on November 2, 1987.

Pat has been active in fandom for many years, currently she is head of Argon Weyr and Dragonweb (the Pern Fandom Welcommittee) and is Official Editor/Central Mailer of BIRD SCRAMBLE (a GATCHAMAN/BOTP apa) and CALL OF THE LENS (a LENSMAN apa). She is also Chapter Representative for C/FO-Great Void, a small group of anime fans in Rapid City, SD. In mundane life, Pat is a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. You can write Pat at 9238 B Lincoln, Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706 or call her at (605) 923-1137.

GENERAL C/FO TO BECOME WELCOMMITTEE IN 1988

Due to the general lack of interest in the general C/FO shown by the vast majority of the membership, the board of directors has voted UNANIMOUSLY to reduce the level of activity of the general organization to that which can be maintained by the handful of people actually doing the work. In 1988, the general C/FO will produce a membership directory and a quarterly 4 or 5 sheet newsletter and will otherwise act as a welcommittee to introduce fans to the active chapters of the C/FO.

This was a very hard decision to make, but the lack of ARTICLE submissions from members for the NEW C/FO BULLETIN and the lack of qualified individuals with the time to edit and publish it in addition to their other duties made it a necessary decision. I am sure that many members who liked the large format magazine will be upset, but it was simply too much work and took too much time to put together and far too hard to get people to write for! I would like to thank those C/FO members who responded to the Survey on what the C/FO should attempt to publish in the October issue of the C/FO-San Antonio Newsletter, the board selected the option which more people voted for.

Of course, if the C/FO going to be publishing less next year, the annual membership dues are going to be much lower. **Dues for 1988 will EITHER be $6.50 a year or $8.50 a year depending on whether or the the Bylaws Amendment that the board has proposed (and that a ballot is included in this issue for) is approved or not.** In the C/FO survey that was conducted through the October issue of the C/FO-San Antonio Newsletter, readers were asked if, assuming that the C/FO was reduced to a welcommittee, should the club be run by elected directors (at a cost of $1.60 to $2.00 per member in additional dues to pay for the elections) or by a self-perpetuating board (that is NOT ELECTED by the membership---therefore dues could be less as there would be no elections to pay for). **37 replies (86%) were in favor of the non-elected leadership, while only 6 replies (14%) were in favor of elections.**

Unfortunately, cancelling the elections now scheduled for next year would require a major revision of the C/FO's Bylaws, something that could not be done well AND in time for the membership of the C/FO to vote on it in time for the board to set the dues for 1988, therefore the board elected to propose a major revision in how the bylaws can be amended.

If this proposed amendment is approved by three-quarters of the C/FO members returning valid ballots, the dues will be set at $6.50 a year for 1988 and all current members (whose $12.50 memberships extend in 1988) will have the number of months remaining on their current membership DOUBLED on January 1, 1988. For example, if your membership now expires in May 1988 (8805 on your mailing label) and the proposed amendment is approved, your membership will not expire until October 1988 (8810).

If this proposed amendment is not approved by three-quarters of those members returning valid ballots, the dues will have to be set at $8.50 a year for 1988 and all current members (whose $12.50 memberships extend in 1988) will have the number of months remaining on their current membership increased by one month for every two months remaining on their current membership as of January 1, 1988. For example, if your membership now expires in May 1988 (8805 on your mailing label) and the proposed amendment is approved, your membership will not expire until July 1988 (8807).

For a complete explanation of the proposed amendment, read the next section and please return the ballot you will find in the center of this publication. Your vote is important.

Randall S. Stukey
Chairman, C/FO Board of Directors
4122 Tallulah
San Antonio, TX 78218-3452
(512) 655-2670

Title by Eric W.

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The Board of Directors has unanimously proposed the following amendment to the Bylaws of the general C/FO.

Resolved, that in accordance with Proviso 6 to the general C/FO bylaws, the following replacement for Article XI of the general C/FO Bylaws be immediately submitted to a special election as provided for in the current Article XI, with this proposed amendment to be effective immediately upon ratification by the membership.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Amendment by the Board of Directors.
Provided that no amendment shall prevent the removal of a member of the Board of Directors upon petition signed by at least two-thirds of the members of the C/FO, these bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors provided that notice of the proposed amendment is sent to the official chapters of the C/FO for comment at least one month in advance of the vote or by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors without such notice.

Section 2. Amendment by Election.
An amendment may be proposed by majority roll call vote of at least one-third of the official chapters of the C/FO. If the Board of Directors does not approve the proposed amendment by the procedures described in Section 1 of this article within one calendar month after its proposal by at least one-third of the official chapters of the C/FO, the proposal must be submitted to a ballot of the current membership of the C/FO with the next C/FO publication to be mailed to the entire membership and shall be approved if at least two-thirds of the members voting in the election vote for the amendment. Both the proponents and the opponents of the amendment shall be provided equal space to present their views in the election mailing.

Explanation: This amendment would make it much easier to amend the C/FO Bylaws. Currently, amendments can normally ONLY be submitted on the bi-annual election ballot or (as this one is being submitted) in a special election called by either a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors or by majority vote of at least one-half of the participant chapters. Three-quarters of those members voting must vote for the amendment if it is to be approved.

This is a very limiting procedure, but had

the bylaws approved last year actually worked, it would have been sufficient.

Unfortunately, the bylaws we approved last year were designed for a club of active members who were interested in holding office and doing the massive amounts of work that are required to run the club under its current bylaws. When I wrote the bylaws, it appeared as if there was enough interest to make them work. However, I was wrong, there simply is not sufficient interest to make them work. Don't get me wrong, the basic idea behind the bylaws HAS WORKED. The infighting and feuding has pretty much come to a halt and there are very few arguments now about who can do what, so just having bylaws solved that problem. However, there is no way the few people currently running the club can do everything that is required by the bylaws. For example, there is no way I can publish the NEW C/FO BULLETIN every quarter, publish C/FO-COMMUNICATIONS every month, keep the membership records, answer the club's business mail and handle every little crisis that occurs (having to move the main address, etc.) AND still hold down a job and have some time to myself.

Approval of this amendment will allow the board of directors to rewrite the bylaws to cut down the red tape and the expenses associated with running this club. Here are some changes the board of directors are fairly certain to make if this amendment is approved:

1) Elimination of elections---the board will become self-perpetuating and the other elective offices will be abolished.
2) Reduction of the publication frequency of C/FO-COMMUNICATIONS

There is a good possibility that the bylaws simply will be completely rewritten with some sweeping changes in a simplified form with less red tape and more options if this amendment is approved.

This amendment is not without it's dangers, however. Members will be giving a great deal of power to the board of directors even through they retain the power to undo its actions. Unfortunately, we have discovered that most members do not really care how the C/FO is run, as long as they get their publications, can attend local chapter meetings, and can make a few trading contacts.

Basically, you should vote **AGAINST** this amendment if you are very interested in getting personally involved in the WORK of running the general C/FO on a day-to-day basis and believe that the only way you can do this is through an elective office of some type.

If, on the other hand, you'd prefer that others run the club and not bother you about it just so long as you have the right to "throw the rascals in charge out" if they botch things up too badly, you should vote **FOR** the proposed amendment.

If the amendment is not approved by the membership, chances are one whole bulletin early next year will be devoted to a new bylaws proposal instead of anime-oriented material. Things have got to change or those few of us who are now doing all the work are going to, sooner or later, simply QUIT!

C/FO-San Antonio at their November meeting unanimously approved a resolution endorsing this proposed amendment and urging its adoption by the membership of the C/FO.

One final note; whether you vote for or against this amendment will NOT affect the size or frequency of the club publications, the board has already decided that the C/FO's publications must be reduced in size due to lack of time and lack of submissions. However, your vote on this amendment will determine the general C/FO dues for next year. If three-quarters of those voting vote YES on this amendment, the dues for 1988 will be $6.50 a year. If the amendment fails to get YES votes from three-quarters of those voting, the dues will be $8.50 a year.

HOW TO VOTE

Voting is very simple. In the center of this publication is a ballot. Circle YES to vote FOR the amendment or circle NO to vote AGAINST the amendment. Fold and seal the ballot with a couple of staples or pieces of tape. Write your name and address in the return address space. Place a 22 cent stamp on the ballot and deposit it in the mail. Ballots must be postmarked by DECEMBER 15, 1987 and received by DECEMBER 20, 1987 to be counted.

All ballots received by December 20, 1987 will be counted provided that:

a) all the above instructions have been followed;
b) you only vote ONCE; and
c) you are eligible to vote (i.e. you are a member of the C/FO on the date this publication is mailed.

The results of this ballot will be announced in the December issue of C/FO-COMMUNICATIONS (mailed to officers and subscribing Chapter Reps) and in the Spring 1988 bulletin (mailed to all members).

There are a few survey-type questions on the bottom half of the ballot, while you are not obligated to answer them, your opinions would be helpful.

Thanks and PLEASE VOTE!

C/FO · ARCHIVES

OKAY NOW, AS PROMISED HERE'S A QUICK & DIRTY ARCHIVE INVENTORY LISTING. THE CATALOG PROPER SHOULD BE DONE IN ABOUT 3 TO 4 WEEKS. AND NOW DATA RETRIEVAL POLICY;

1▶ EACH ORDER MUST HAVE YOUR FULL NAME & ADDRESS ON IT (I TOSS THE ENVELOPES) IN LETTER FORM (FOR MY FILES)

2▶ EACH ORDER MUST CONTAIN A 'SELF ADDRESSED · STAMPED ENVELOPE' TO RETURN YOUR ORDER TO YOU. BUSINESS SIZE WILL DO FOR UP TO 5 PAGES OF MATERIAL, 6X9 FOR UP TO 30 (FOLDED) PAGES & 9X12 FOR ANYTHING OVER THAT.

3▶ S.A.S.E MUST HAVE ENOUGH POSTAGE TO GET YOUR ORDER BACK TO YOU. USE COMMON SENSE HERE; FIGURE OUT HOW MANY PAGES YOU'LL NEED, THEN CHECK WITH THE POST OFFICE. IT'S THAT EASY.

4▶ COPY COST IS ¢5 PER PAGE (SINGLE SIDED) OR ¢10 PER PAGE (DOUBLE SIDED). TO KEEP YOUR POSTAGE COST DOWN I'LL PRINT AS MUCH OF YOUR ORDER AS POSSIBLE DOUBLE-SIDED SO SEND PAYMENT ACCORDINGLY.

5▶ IN THE BELOW LISTINGS NUMBERS IN BRACKETS "[ ]" ARE THE PAGE COUNT OF ITEM (ONE-SIDED).

NATIONAL BULLETINS

C/FO BULLETIN №1 (TEZUKA MINI-CON FLIER) 9/20/77 [3]
C/FO BULLETIN №2 (C/FO MEETING FLIER) 10/15/77 [3]
C/FO BULLETIN №7 11/19/77 - №20 12/16/78 (MONTHLY MEETING FLIERS [1] EACH)
"BANDER'S BOOK" MOVIE SYNOPSIS (FOR 12/16/78 MEETING) [4]
C/FO BULLETIN №21 1/20/79 [1]
C/FO BULLETIN №22 2/24/79 [2]
C/FO BULLETIN №23 3/17/79 [3]
TOEI ANIMATION SHOWGUIDE (FOR GALACTICON 2) [2]
C/FO BULLETIN №24 4/21/79 [1]
C/FO BULLETIN №25 5/19/79 (2ND ANNIVERSARY) [4]
"THE PUPPY WHO WANTED A BOY" MOVIE FLIERS 5/27/79 [4]
C/FO BULLETIN №26 6/16/79 - №31 11/17/79 (MONTHLY MEETING FLIERS [2] EACH)
C/FO BULLETIN №32 12/15/79 [6] (MARINE EXPRESS MOVIE SYNOPSIS)
C/FO BULLETIN №33 1/19/80 & №34 2/16/80 [2] EACH.
C/FO BULLETIN №35 3/15/80 [1]
C/FO BULLETIN №36 4/12/80 - №40 8/16/80 [2] EACH
C/FO BULLETIN №41 9/20/80 - №43 11/15/80 [4] EACH
C/FO BULLETIN №44 12/20/80 [2]
C/FO BULLETIN №45 1/17/81 - №57 1/16/82 [4]

C/FO BULLETIN Nº 58 2/20/82 & Nº 59 3/20/82 [6] EACH
C/FO BULLETIN Nº 60 4/15/82 [8]
C/FO BULLETIN Nº 61 5/15/82 [16]
C/FO BULLETIN Nº 62 6/19/82 - Nº 66 10/16/82 [12] EACH
C/FO BULLETIN Nº 67 11/20/82 & Nº 68 12/18/82 [16] EACH

NOTE: AT THIS POINT KURT & JANE BLACK ASSUMED EDITORSHIP OF PUBLICATION & RENAMED IT "NEW C/FO BULLETIN" & RENUMBERED ISSUES

NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 1 MAY 83 [32] MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 2 [32] ACROBUNCH
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 3 [32]
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 4 [32] JAPANESE LIVE ACTION
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 5 [32] LUPIN III DATA BANK
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 6 [40] SPACE COBRA
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 7 [40] LUPIN III DATA BANK
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 8 [40] MATSUMOTO
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 9 [32] MOSPEADA
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 10 [48] BRYGAR / BAXINGAR / SASURAIGAR
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL. II Nº 11 [48] PATALLIRO / ULTRA MYTHOS
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL III Nº 1 JAN 87 [24] Z GUNDAM
NEW C/FO BULLETIN VOL III Nº 2 APR 87 [24] SPT LAYNEZER
FANTAZINE Nº 1 JULY 79 [15]
FANTAZINE Nº 2 SEPT 79 [21]
FANTAZINE Nº 3 NOV 79 [37]
FANTAZINE Nº 4 JAN 80 [36] ULTRAMAN THEME
FANTAZINE Nº 5 MAR 80 [72] GATCHAMAN THEME
FANTAZINE Nº 6 MAY 80 [80] KIMBA THEME

ÖKEE-DÖKEE, THAT'S THE NATIONALAL ARCHIVES AS THEY STAND, AS I'M MAILED THE REMAINDER OF THE ARCHIVES, I'LL COMPLETE & UPDATE THE CATALOG. THE MAIN CATALOG WILL CONTAIN THIS AS WELL AS A LISTING OF CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS & BULLETINES, FLIERS & WHATEVER OTHER HISTORICAL GOODIES COME MY WAY. THANX FOR YOUR INTEREST & HAPPY VIEWING.

Shon Howell

POSTAGE/PAGE COUNT	
UP TO 5 PAGES	¢22
5-10 PAGES	¢39
11-15 PAGES	¢56
16-20 PAGES	¢73
21-25 PAGES	¢90

¢18 PER EVERY ADDITIONAL 5 PAGES.

SHON HOWELL
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Hokuto No Ken

An Initiate's Guide

AN INITIATE'S GUIDE TO HOKUTO NO KEN pt. 1
by Robert W. Gibson and Tomoaki Okuzumi
with lots of help from Mary
Kennard and Jeff Blend

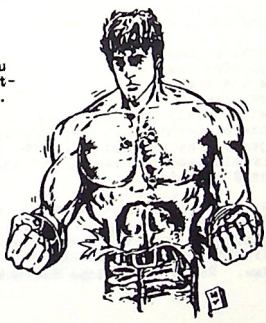
Introduction

Hokuto no ken (Fist of the Great Bear, or Fist of the Great Dipper) began as a manga comic strip in 1983. It was originally created by Tetsuo Hara earlier, but it was not until the strip began running in Shonen Jump in 1983 that it became very, very popular. The strip was illustrated by Hara and written by Buronson (Yoshiyuki Okamura), a veteran of the manga mills of Tokyo. Later, in 1984, the television anime (produced by Toei) premiered and quickly became very popular. It was, and still is the most violent of the anime on television, but the overwhelming sense of justice and the appeal of the main character, who is an almost perfect fighting machine, is almost always right, and protects the weak from truly despicable villains, more than makes up for the superflous mayhem. The show gained popularity, and was always consistently among the top 5 animated series in Japan. The first series ended in 1987 at 109 episodes, only to be followed by Hokuto no ken 2, which is still running. The manga strip is still a very popular part of the weekly Shonen Jump.

The show has its flaws, to be sure, but it still stands in my mind as the best of the current shows, and one of the very best animated series Japan has ever produced. On the minus, the animation is not the most fluid, it varies from episode to episode. The dialogue is terribly melodramatic at times, the plots are sometimes overly contrived and predictable, and emotional attatchement to any but the lead characters is not advised. Because of the overall plot of the series, almost all of the supporting cast must die. This is the law of Hokuto no ken.

On the positive, the artwork and character designs are, in my opinion, some of the best and most detailed, if not the best that the TV anime genre has ever produced. The characters all represent more than is apparent at first glance, the series is probably the most literate of any to come out of Japan (anime). The program deals with many aspects of human nature which are ignored by other shows, and the morals are sometimes hard to understand by those not familiar with Japanese customs and society. It is a very Japanese show.

The overall plot and series is one big origin story. Kenshiro is successor to hokuto shinken and the law says his three brothers must either forget the art or die. The "nanto roku sei ken" are tragic figures whom fate has gifted with fantastic abilities but doomed to die. Kenshiro must deal with each menace which comes his way and the people he meets help to shape him into what he must become——the savior of his world, a world filled with horrid examples of the worst aspects of humanity.



On to the good stuff.

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are © Buronson and Tetsuo Hara

THE HISTORY

(As the history of the mythos is told via continueing flashbacks in the episodes themselves, all which I have not seen, the following is not complete)

Ryuuken

The art of hokuto shinken (Great Bear God-fist) is a form of mystical martial arts which is taught by father to son and is used in times of chaos to defend the weak and to restore order. It has been carried down from father to son thusly for almost 2000 years. The last generation's successorship to hokuto shinken was split between two students, Ryuuken and Kouryou, but since this was against the laws of the art, the latter gave up his claim in favor of Ryuuken.

Ryuuken, forseeing a time of crisis in his lifetime, is troubled because he has no son to pass hokuto shinken to. In desperation, he adopts two orphans, Raoh and Toki because he had promised their dead parents he would take care of them, and teaches them hokuto shinken. He watches them grow and notices Raoh has the desire needed but is overtly cruel and lacks humility. Toki is almost too pacifistic. He then adopts another son, Jaggi with the hopes that this cruel newcomer would foster competition among the brothers. Another son is adopted as an infant. His name is Kenshiro (or Ken Shiro or Kenshirou).

While practicing in the courtyard oneday, Kenshiro and Raoh are visited by a young girl from another school, one who has never smiled. Her name is Yuria and both boys make an impression (Ken makes her smile).

Toki and Kenshiro become very close, Jaggi becomes jealous of Ken, and Raoh just gets more self-centered. All four fall in love with Yuria. Then the bombs go off and the world is a mess. The year is 199X.

Toki, Ken, and Yuria (the latter two are in love by this time) are near a bomb shelter when the nukes strike their city, but they barely reach it. The doors get stuck and there are many women and children inside; after a moment's hesitation, Toki pushes Ken and Yuria inside, forces the doors closed behind them (the second time he's saved Ken's life), and is engulfed in the radioactive waters which fill the tunnel. When the doors are finally opened (two weeks later), Toki is found alive, but his hair is turned white and he is dying of radiation poisoning.

Toki's condition leaves Ryuuken with a problem since he was leaning toward picking Toki as the successor to hokuto shinken. Raoh is too cruel, Ken is a bit weak-willed, and Jaggi is totally unacceptable. In the hopes of toughening up Kenshiro, Ryuuken arranges a contest between Ken and Jaggi. Ken wins easily showing he has much more skill, but he still will not finish his opponent. Ryuuken chooses Kenshiro as successor anyway and Jaggi gets so jealous he attacks Ken. The latter uses hokuto shinken to enlarge Jaggi's cranium so much that Jaggi has to wear metal plates and a mask to keep his head normal size.

Ryuuken realizes that there can be only one master of hokuto shinken and Raoh will never agree to Ken, so Ryuuken sets out to "break Raoh's fist" (make him forget hokuto shinken). In the middle of this ritualistic fight, Ryuuken has a stroke and pleads with Raoh to forget hokuto shinken as per the law. Replying that he did not even obey the orders of God, Raoh kills his

adoptive father. This is the first time in 2000 years that the law of hokuto shinken has been broken.

Toki remembers a promise he made to his brother in their childhood. Raoh made him promise that if he ever used hokuto shinken for the wrong reasons that Toki would try and "break his fist". Although he is weak, he knows he must try...

Another martial artist (and childhood friend of Kenshiro's), Shin also covets Yuria and he challenges Ken to a fight. Shin defeats Ken (who really didn't wish to fight his friend) and decorates Ken's chest with the marks of his order's stars (the Great Dipper), using his fingers. Shin takes Yuria away and leaves the wounded Ken in the dangerous desert land.

The world after the bombs is not a very nice place. There are pockets of civilization starting (mostly in the wreckage that were once cities), but they are under constant seige by the rabble of humanity, hulking mockeries of men who constantly prey on the weak for thier own purposes. Usually segregated into roving gangs, these evil characatures are either led by even huger and meaner bandits, or super-powered martial artists from varying sects and disciplines. The weak, often defensless normals who are attempting to start over again are faced with an almost hopeless task, unless they learn to fight back. But they need leadership, and there are rumors of such a man, a savior to bring them back to a level where they have a chance, a man with seven scars on his chest.

THE CHARACTERS

(It could be said that there are three kinds of characters in Hokuto no ken: the main cast (Ken, Lynn, and Bat), the supporting cast, and hokuto no fodder. I have divided the important characters into four catagories: the "hokuto brothers", the "nanto roku sei ken", the "nanto go sha sei", and the others. The first two are dealt with here (along with Lynn and Bat), and the other two will be in the second part of the Initiate's Guide. There are several different translations of character's names, so I am going with the ones I have seen most often in Printed English in various magazines and books.)

Bat

Lynn

Lynn (pronounced "Reen" or "Deen")
A child with unexplained psycic powers, her parents were apparently killed when she was very small.(they weren't really her real parents, but that gets confusing), and the trauma of watching them die left her unable to speak. Ken used hokuto shinken to cure her and has looked after her ever since. She survives into the second series and leads the "hokuto army".

Bat (pronounced Baatto)
An adolescent with a penchant for theivery, he is the major source of comedy relief on the show. His trademark is a pair of goggles, which he hardly ever uses. He has followed Ken around since episode one and he survives into the second series and leads the "hokuto army" together with Lynn (and actually turns into a pretty good fighter.

THE "HOKUTO BROTHERS"

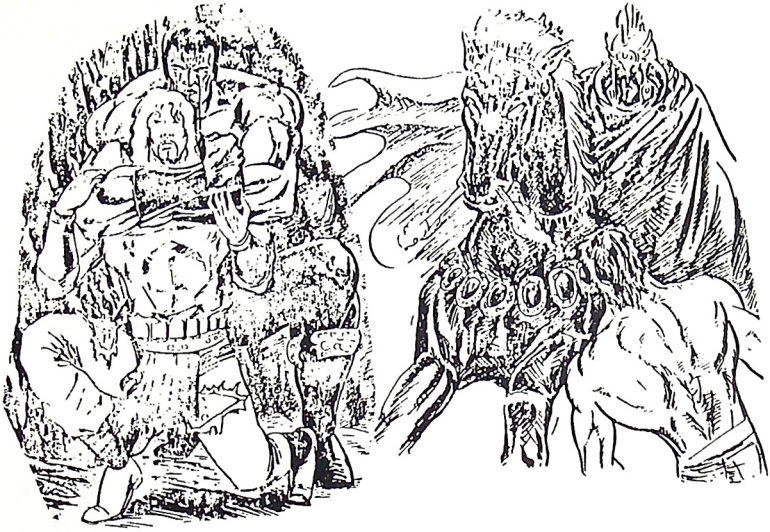
The four adopted sons of Ryuuken are known by reputation among the denizens of the world and form the core of the show. First a bit about the art of hokuto shinken itself.

The art of hokuto shinken is very powerfull and relies on constant practice, many know of it, but very very few can master it. It relies mainly in the fact that there are many "secret" pressure points known only to the practitioners and by using these points, many effects can be achieved. It is a secretive art and its maneuvers are guarded very secretly by its masters because in the wrong hands, it would be very, very destructive.

Kenshiro-The youngest of the adopted sons of Ryuuken, he is the star of the show. His style is "kanasi fist" (sad fist) because he is reluctant to use it unless necessary and, because of his position as successor to hokuto shinken, he has seen many of his friends die to push him foreward. Partially because of this duty, he very rarely smiles. He is slow to anger, but when he does get mad, watch out, he is unbeatable. He is the protector of innocents, the weak, and especially children, seeing them as the future of civilization. He is a very good fighter, the best of the brothers in raw talent. He is also very strong. He is fair (often giving opponents the chance to back down) but will not hesitate to kill, which he does quite often. Unfortunatly, he is not decisive enough in certain circumstances and his mistakes sometimes come back to haunt him. He is often just a few minutes (or seconds) too late to save a friend's life, thus giving him motivation to do what he must and adding to the guilt he carries with him. He has the main symbol of the Ursa Major constellation on his chest (courtesy of Shin) and no baddie has seen it and lived. The Japanese see the character as an archetype and as morally perfect. He can see the aura of living things, thus sensing the inherent good or bad in that being. I could go on about him further but there is really no point.

Jagi-the third eldest of the adopted sons of Ryuuken, Jagi is the least skilled in martial arts, prefferring to stick to technical devices like shotguns and motorcycles. After losing succession to Kenshiro, Jagi became insanely jealous and challenged Ken to a fight. Ken beat him easily and, using hokuto shinken, enlarged his cranium, causing Jagi to have to wear a helmet to hide his deformity. Later, Jagi pushed Shin's insane love of Yuria further and set him against Ken. Not satisfied with this, Jagi donned a mask, poked the northstar constellation in his own chest, and travelled the land trying to ruin Kenshiro's reputation. This came to a climax when Jagi kidnapped Rei's sister, Airi, causing Ken to face him one last time and finish what he started.

Toki-the second eldest of the adopted sons of Ryuuken, Toki is pacifistic, quiet, reflective, and prefers to use hokuto shinken to heal rather than kill (but he will kill when necessary). He is the natural brother of Raoh and they love each other despite their great difference in personalities. He and Kenshiro became as true brothers (Ken calls him "brother", the only one of Ryuuken's adopted children he refers to with that term) and Toki has saved Ken's life on two occassions. Caught outside of a bomb shelter and engulfed in radioactive waters, Toki contracted radiation poisoning and his hair changed from brown to white (leaving him looking somewhat like Jesus Christ, hmm). He then went from village to village curing various illnesses and gaining quite a reputation. He advises Kenshiro constantly on the ways of people and, although dying, regains his strength enough to attempt to fulfill his promise to Raoh. Unfortunatly, he has not the strength to use his natural style of "jyu ken" (gentle fist) in his final fight with his brother and Raoh defeats him. He spends the rest of his life curing illnesses until he is killed by Ryuuga.



Raoh-the eldest of the adopted sons of Ryuuken, Raoh is not a nice person (although he is quite honorable). Ever since he was a small child he has had the ambition to be the "strongest of all" and it seems he has achieved that status. He is probably the most powerful man left alive after the holocaust and demands respect from all (and gets it, for the most part). The world at large knows him as "kenou" (king of fist) and his reputation is known to just about everyone. He is a massive man, fully a head taller than Kenshiro and he rides a huge horse named Ko ku-ō (black king) which adds to his stature and presence. He is the undisputed master of hokuto shinken and can seemingly cause people to die simply by gesturing. His powerful aura can cause buildings to crumble and he can kill scores of people in seconds. There are only 2 people he fears and he obeys no one, not even God (whom he refers to as being on his side), and he considers himself king of the world and there are few who would say otherwise, although Kenshiro once faught him to a standstill. He killed his adopted father, Ryuuken, Rei, and most of the nanto go sha sei, but knows he will again have to face Kenshiro if he is to claim the two things he wants most——the world and Yuria.

THE NANTO ROKU SEI KEN

The art of nanto sei ken (southern cross fist) is the opposite of hokuto shinken, yet the two are connected in some fashion never really made clear. It destroys from outside and is just as deadly. The masters of nanto sei ken are called nanto roku sei ken (6 masters of holy southern cross fist) and they make up the main supporting cast of Hokuto no ken. The 6 masters are apparently chosen by lineage instead of being passed down from father to son, and these 6 are much more powerful than any of the other practitioners of nanto sei ken. Unlike hokuto shinken, nanto sei ken is an open school and is patterned after a Shaolin temple. The 6 masters are held in the sway of one aspect of their personalities (given as the name of a star) and each takes a name akin to his style. Like hokuto shinken, there seems to be a law in nanto sei ken that only one master can survive in order to preserve order. What follows are accounts of 5 of the 6 (the sixth will be dealt with in part 2 of the Initiate's Guide so as not to spoil the surprise).

Shin (Nanto ko shyu ken) (south lone eagle fist) A friend, turned rival of the young Kenshiro, Shin is a master of nanto sei ken. Spurred on by Jaggi, Shin coveted Yuria and, thinking she returned his love, he challenged Ken to a fight, which he won. Mocking Kenshiro and trying to get Yuria to say she loved him, Shin then used his fingers to decorate Ken's chest with the Big Dipper. Yuria relented and Shin took her away, leaving Ken to spend the rest of the first TV season tracking them down. Shin had "Jun sei" (which meant he would die a martyr's death for love), and since he truly believed Yuria loved him, he tried relentlessly to win that love, but she would not give in to him. This slowly drove Shin insane. Yuria would not accept his gifts; and since he was planning to conquer another city for her, she could not bear to see it and decided to kill herself. She threw herself high off his tower, only to be saved by the nanto go sha sei. They persuaded Shin to give up his dream because Yuria did not really love him and Raoh was coming to take her. This brought Shin back to his sanity and he bravely waited to face Raoh, only to find Ken got there first. Knowing that Raoh would get the truth out of Ken, Shin purposly misled Ken into thinking Yuria had died so she would be safe. Ken, in his anger, had already killed Shin slowly, but Shin decided to kill himself by throwing himself off of his tower instead of dying a slow, painful death by hokuto shinken.

Rei (Nanto sui cho ken) (south waterfowl fist)
A master of nanto sei ken, Rei is the main supporting character of the second TV season. He meets Ken while searching for his sister who has been kidnapped by a man with "the seven scars on his chest". The culprit turns out to be Jaggi and together Ken and Rei track down her (Airi) current captors and free her. Rei is somewhat cocky, has a sarcastic wit, and takes a certain pleasure in killing his opponents, but is humbled by Raoh when he attempts to defend Mamiya's town (and save Lynn's life) in the absence of Ken. He does this mainly because of his star, gi sei, the star of obligation to others, because he felt he owed Kenshiro so much. Raoh defeats him and causes him to die a slow, 3 day, painful death by hokuto shinken. When it is apparent that Juda is going to come and kill Mamiya (the woman Rei has come to love), he resists the pain and allows Toki to use a very, very, painful remedy to Raoh's sentence and allows Rei one more day of life. Rei and Juda have a final confrontation and Rei kills Juda. Rei's funeral pyre marks the end of the second TV season. In a later climactic confrontation, Kenshiro uses one of Rei's moves to wound Raoh.

Juda (Nanto kou kaku ken) (south red crane fist)
A master of nanto sei ken and fellow student of Rei's, Juda (or Yuda) is obsessed with beautiful women and make-up and collects both. He was somehow responsible for the break-up of the nanto roku sei ken (hence the name, but the details are pretty fuzzy). He abducted Mamiya years earlier, and marked her with his mark (UD), but she escaped. Naturally scheming and suspicious (yo-u sei, star of suspicion), Juda almost escapes Rei's wrath by waiting until Rei should be dead before trying to get Mamiya back. This failing, because of the extra day Toki gave Rei, Juda attempts to flood the battlefield and thus take away Rei's leg movement (his main advantage), before Rei kills him anyway. Juda dies in Rei's arms after admitting he has been in love with Rei (hey, this is the 80's) and jealous of his style since they were in training together.

Sauzer (Nanto ho ō ken) (south phoenix fist)
The most powerful of the nanto roku sei ken, Sauzer is the nanto equivelent of successor, but due to circumstances, he turned out purely evil. He is the star of command (sho sei) or star of emporer (sei tei), take your pick. As part of the ritual of passing nanto ho ō ken, he accidently killed his master who was more than a father to him. The experience drove him mad and he forsook all love, for to him, love meant nothing but pain. He carried this pain through his life and passed it on to all he met. As a tomb to his dead master, he is building a pyramid using children as labor, which brings him up against Ken and Shew. He defeats Kenshiro due to a fluke in his body structure (his pressure points are reversed), and he throws Ken into prison. Ken is rescued by Shew's son and Sauzer captures Shew and uses him to carry his pyramid's capstone to the top of the pyramid. When Ken finally is well enough to face Sauzer a second time, he changes his tactics and defeats Sauzer. Instead of killing him in his normal method, Ken uses Toki's move which causes Sauzer to feel no pain. Sauzer connot understand this feeling and asks Ken why he had mercy. Ken tells him that a good leader must have warmth as well as strength. Sauzer crawls to the image of his dead master and asks him to show him warmth before he dies. Ken then laments that Sauzer had more unused love to give than anyone and his life was a tragic waste.

Shew (Nanto hakoru ken) (south egret fist)
A master of nanto sei ken, Shew is, like Kenshiro, a protector of children, which eventually proves his ruin. He is guided by "jin sei", the star of benevolence. Years earlier when Kenshiro was a small boy, Shew saved his life by sacrificing his eyesight (his most prized possession) during a test in which Sauzer demanded the young Ken be killed. Shew's son rescues Kenshiro from Sauzer's dungeon and later sacrifices his own life to save Ken from discovery by Sauzer's men when Ken is too hurt to fight. A former associate of Sauzer's, Shew is captured by Sauzer when the latter decides to make Shew decide between his freedom of the lives of his people. He later is forced to carry Sauzer's pyramid's capstone to its summit and is killed for his trouble. Ken arrives (a little late as usual) and Shew's eyesight returns in time to see that Kenshiro's face resembles the face of Shew's dead son, thus assuring Shew that "my jun.sei·blood passed true". Kenshiro then got in a good fighting mood to beat up on Sauzer. Shew's story is a good example of the tragic nature of the plot of Hokuto no ken and the final episode of Shew's story is still my favorite episode. As part of mu so ten sei (explained in part 2 of my Initiate's Guide), Ken uses Shew's style later when he is blind.

As I mentioned earlier, the identity of the sixth nanto roku sei ken will be revealed in part 2, because it belongs there with the information on the fourth season of Hokuto no ken.

HOKUTO NO KEN 1st-3rd Season Opening Credits Song

translated by Tomoaki Okuzumi and
"Englishized" by Robert Gibson

AI O TORIMODOSE (Get Back Love)

You are shocked. The sky falls becnuse of love.
You are shocked. The sky falls into my heart.
You can't chain down our blazing hearts,
and I'll down those in my way with my finger.

You are shocked. A pulse races faster because of love.
You are shocked. My pulse races faster.
My heart blazes hotter as I search for you,
and it will melt everything.

*You had left on your journey to keep our love,
but we lost tomorrow.
I don't want to see a lost smile on you.
Get back love!

You are shocked. Strike at the darkness.
You are shocked. Strike at this darkness of mine.
No one can seperate us, our tie is so strong,
we will never be seperated again.

*Repeat

Both songs by Crystal King

HOKUTO NO KEN 1st-3rd Season Closing Credits Song

translated by Tomoaki Okuzumi and
"Englishized" by Robert Gibson

YURIA...TOWA NI (Forever Yuria)

The lonely whisper is alive at this moment.
I've known lonliness and grope for warmth.
Now, I embrace you.

The time for lovers is past.
My mind is wandering and doesn't see tomorrow.

You are smiling and shaking in brightness.
The silhouette comes to darkness, leaving only footsteps.
I'm satisfied and fly.

Now a godess turns her back on me.
So I want love more than today and tomorrow.
I want you more than a dream.
All of you.

HOKUTO NO KEN
(A guide to episodes of the saga)

FIRST SEASON (Episodes #1-22)

#5: Flashback to Kenshiro VS. Shin Round 1 -- Kenshiro gets his chest decorated; Shin takes Yuria away
#22: Kenshiro VS. Shin Round 2 -- Death of Shin; Yuria (?)

SECOND SEASON (Episodes #23-57)

#23: First episode -- Rei; Mamiya
#27-29: Airi rescued from wolfpack
Kenshiro VS. Rei
#29-32: Jagi episodes
Flashbacks -- Kenshiro & Jagi
Kenshiro VS. Jagi
#33-43: The search for Toki
#44: Kenshiro; Raoh; Toki; Yuria flashbacks
#47-49: Rei VS. Raoh
Flashbacks -- Raoh VS. Ryuuken
Toki VS. Raoh Round 1
Kenshiro VS. Raoh Round 1
#52-56: Yuda episodes
Flashbacks -- Yuda; Rei; & Mamiya
Rei VS. Yuda
#57: Death of Rei

THIRD SEASON (Episodes #58-77)

#58: First episode -- Sauzer
#59: First episode -- Shew
#60: Flashbacks -- Young Kenshiro & Shew
#62,63: Kenshiro VS. Sauzer Round 1 -- Kenshiro beaten up
#64: Shew VS. Sauzer
Injured Kenshiro rescued from Sauzer by Shew's son
#66: Death of Shew
#67,68: Kenshiro VS. Sauzer Round 2
#71,72: Toki VS. Raoh Round 2
Flashbacks -- Toki & Raoh
#73-77: Ryuuga episodes
Ryuuga attacks Toki
Kenshiro VS. Ryuuga
Death of Toki

THIRD & ONE-HALF SEASON (Episodes #78-82)

#78-82: Intermission
Toki's funeral pyre burns
Flashbacks -- the five "Nanto Roku Sei Ken"

Thanks to Jeff Blend for this mini-episode guide to the first three seasons, the fourth season will be dealt with in part 2. The illos are my doing---RWG

C/FO BYLAWS AMENDMENT OFFICIAL BALLOT

HOW TO VOTE:
Circle YES if you wish to vote for the amendment.
Circle NO if you wish to vote against the amendment.
Fold this ballot so that the mailing address is on the outside, tape or staple it shut, PRINT or TYPE your name and return address (much match what is in our files), place a 22 cent stamp on the mailer and drop it in the mail. To be counted, your ballot must be postmarked by DECEMBER 15, 1987 and received by December 20, 1987!

PROPROSED AMENDMENT
Replace the current Article XI with the following:
ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS
SECTION 1: Amendment by the Board of Directors.
Provided that no amendment shall prevent the removal of a member of the Board of Directors upon petition signed by at least two-thirds of the members of the C/FO, these bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors provided that notice of the proposed amendment is sent to the official chapters of the C/FO for comment at least one month in advance of the vote or by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors without such notice.

Section 2. Amendment by Election.
An amendment may be proposed by majority roll call vote of at least one-third of the official chapters of the C/FO. If the Board of Directors does not approve the proposed amendment by the procedures described in Section 1 of this article within one calendar month after its proposal by at least one-third of the official chapters of the C/FO, the proposal must be submitted to a ballot of the current membership of the C/FO with the next C/FO publication to be mailed to the entire membership and shall be approved if at least two-thirds of the members voting in the election vote for the amendment. Both the proponents and the opponents of the amendment shall be provided equal space to present their views in the election mailing.

CIRCLE YOUR VOTE: YES NO

SURVEY SECTION (OPTIONAL)

1) If the workload of the C/FO cannot be decreased to the point where the current volunteers can handle it and no additional capable volunteers can be found, should the C/FO (SELECT ONE ONLY):

_____ Disband the general C/FO and issue a pro-rated refund (by number of months remaining on each membership).

_____ Attempt to merge the general C/FO with a more active anime fan club, if this cannot be done, disband the general C/FO as above.

_____ Just let the general C/FO flounder along until someone comes along and does the work, even if I end up getting nothing for my money.

2) Should the C/FO have: (SELECT ONLY ONE)

a membership card.
a membership certificate.
both a membership card and a certificate.
neither, both are all but useless and a waste of club money.

3) Why do you think most members are so apathic about the general C/FO and what would you do about it--without spending much money--if you were in charge?

_____

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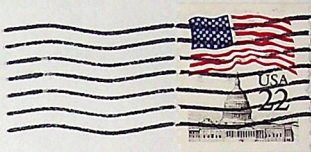

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